Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12112 301857Z ACTION EUR-03

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FOR MCCALL FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

- 1. WE FULLY AGREE WITH YOUR COMMENTS ON STATE 133614, WHICH REQUESTED ARTICLE BY COMBS FOR NEWSLETTER. OUR CABLE SHOULD PUT MATTER TO REST.
- 2. RE PARAS 6 AND 11, STATE 135544, BOTH GUIDES HAVE RECEIVED APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS AND SO FAR AS I AM AWARE HAVE NOT RESISTED THEM.
- 3. IMMUNITIES LEGISLATION (STATE 134188): PRESENT
 ATMOSPHERE SHOULD LOGICALLY SUPPORT SUPPLEMENTARY
 BILATERAL AGREEMENT RATHER THAN MILITATE AGAINST IT.
 WITHOUT IT EVERY NON-DIPLOMATIC MEMBER OF STAFF IS
 POTENTIAL HOSTAGE. IF WE CANNOT COVER THEM BY
 SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT, WE MUST SERIOUSLY AND URGENTLY
 CONSIDER WHETHER WE CAN SEND NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF TO
 MOSCOW AT ALL. TO EXPOSE SOME OF OUR PEOPLE TO TRUMPEDCHARGES IN RETALIATION FOR ARRESTS OF SOVIETS IN U.S.
 WOULD SIMPLY BE UNCONSCIONABLE. IF THERE IS ANY DANGER
 OF OUR NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF LOSING FULL IMMUNITY, SOV
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SHOULD IMMEDIATELY INITIATE URGENT CONSULTATION WITH DG OR M TO MAKE SURE WE CONVERT EVERYONE HERE TO FULL DIPLOMATIC STATUS OR REMOVE THEM FORTHWITH IF FULL IMMUNITY IS LOST.

4. HOW DOES CHERNYAYEV/ENGER CASE STAND? WHAT ARE OUR INTENTIONS REGARDING FUTURE COURSE OF EVENTS? WHILE

IMPLICATIONS FOR US ARE POTENTIALLY QUITE SERIOUS, WE FEEL VERY MUCH IN DARK AS TO WHAT IS REALLY GOING ON.

5. WITH REGARD TO INTEREST AMONG OFFICERS HERE FOR ONGOING ASSIGNMENT TO PM; AS MILES MENTIONED TO GARY MATTHEWS IN HELSINKI, HE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN SOV SLOT IN GENEVA SALT DEL (IF THAT SLOT IS STILL AVAILABLE IN 1979). FOR FINANCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL REASONS, MILES PREFERS NOT TO ACCEPT U.S. ASSIGNMENT UNTIL CA. 1981, BUT NATURALLY, WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER ANY PM OFFERS. FYI - MILES IS STILL INTERESTED IN ONGOING ASSIGNMENT TO NON-ARABIC-LANGUAGE POSITION IN M.E. OR NORTH AFRICA AND SPOKE TO APPROPRIATE PEOPLE IN NEA AND AF ABOUT THIS WHILE IN THE DEPT. LAST JANUARY.

6. FROM PORTER: APPRECIATE VERY MUCH YOUR EFFORTS ON MY BEHALF. MCGIFFERT JOB SOUNDS INTERESTING AND CHALLENGING, BUT MY FIRST CHOICE WOULD STILL BE SOMETHING OUTSIDE OF AREA IN WESTERN EUROPE, AS YOU KNOW. I AM ALSO GREATLY INTERESTED IN A YEAR IN SOVIET OR EVEN BETTER AMERICAN STUDIES AS AN ALTERNATE MEANS OF DECOMPRESSION. AND DESPITE MY INITIAL NEGATIVE REACTION, WOULD LIKE TO CONSIDER EARLY WAR COLLEGE. ASK JODY LEWINSOHN IF SHE HAS ANYTHING AND PLEASE SUGGEST TO EDMINSTER HE TOSS IN SOME OUTSIDE POSSIBILITIES. MANY THANKS.

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7. WITH REFERENCE TO MOSCOW 11899 ON MFA REJECTION OF CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON'S LETTER, WE WOULD LIKE TO TRY OUT THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL ON YOU. OBVIOUSLY WE DO NOT WANT TO GET INTO THE BUSINESS OF DECIDING WHICH CONGRESSIONAL LETTERS SHOULD BE FORWARDED, AND WHICH SHOULD NOT. WE SUGGEST THAT HENCEFORTH, AND TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES BE ADVISED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO SEND CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO SOVIET LEADERS DIRECTLY TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, FOR FORWARDING TO MOSCOW. GIVEN THE MFA'S POSTURE ON SUCH MAIL, THE CHANCES OF GETTING THROUGH TO SOVIET DECISION MAKERS ON HUMAN RIGHTS CASES WOULD NOT DECREASE. AND IF THE SOVIET EMBASSY HAD PROBLEMS WITH A GIVEN LETTER, IT COULD COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH THE CONGRESSMAN CONCERNED. WHAT TO YOU THINK?

8. FOR WILLEMS FROM GROSS: RE PARA 4, STATE 132737. WE ARE OF COURSE PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOVIETS IN THE TCP PROGRAM WILL HAVE THEIR STAY IN ROME REDUCED FROM SEVERAL MONTHS TO THREE DAYS. SUCH A PROCEDURE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY INCREASE THE WORKLOAD FOR OUR LOCAL STAFF SOMEWHAT, BUT I ANTICIPATE WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET ALONG EITHER WITH THE EXISTING STAFF OR, AT THE MOST, WILL

NEED ONE ADDITIONAL LOCAL. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IN TAKING UP THIS MATTER WITH INS AND THE EILBERG SUBCOMMITTEE. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE BEEN GREATLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE LONG STAY IN ROME OF OUR TCP CANDIDATES, PARTICULARLY THE OLD AND FEEBLE. MATLOCK

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